

CODE OF ETHICS

Preamble

The educator believes in the worth and dignity of man. He recognizes the supreme importance of the pursuit of truth, devotion to excellence, and the nurture of democratic citizenship. He regards as essential to these goals the protection of freedom to learn and to teach and the guarantee of equal educational opportunity for all. The educator accepts his responsibility to practice his profession according to the highest ethical standards.

The educator recognizes the magnitude of the responsibility he has accepted in choosing a career in education, and engages himself, individually and collectively with other educators, to judge his/her colleagues, and to be judged by them, in accordance with the provisions of this code.

COMMITMENT TO THE STUDENT

The educator measures his/her success by the progress of each student toward realization of his/her potential as a worthy and effective citizen. The educator therefore works to stimulate the spirit of inquiry, the acquisition of knowledge and understanding, and the thoughtful formulation of worthy goals.

In fulfilling his/her obligation to the student, the educator

1. shall not without just cause restrain the student from independent action in his pursuit of learning, and shall not without just cause deny the student access to varying points of view.
2. shall not deliberately suppress or distort subject matter for which he/she bears responsibility.
3. shall make reasonable effort to protect the student from conditions harmful to learning or to health and safety.
4. shall conduct professional business in such a way that he/she does not expose the student to unnecessary embarrassment or disparagement.
5. shall not on the ground of race, color, creed, or national origin exclude any student from participation in or deny him/her benefits under any program, not grant any discriminatory consideration or advantage.
6. shall not use professional relationships with students for private advantage.
7. shall keep in confidence information that has been obtained in the course of professional service, unless disclosure serves professional purposes or is required by law.
8. shall not tutor for remuneration students assigned to his/her classes, unless no other qualified teacher is reasonably available.

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COMMITMENT TO THE PUBLIC

The educator believes that patriotism in its highest form requires dedication to the principles of our democratic heritage. He/she shares with all other citizens the responsibility for the development of sound public policy and assumes full political and citizenship responsibilities. The educator bears particular responsibility for the development of policy relating to the extension of educational opportunities for all and for interpreting educational programs and policies to the public.

In fulfilling his/her obligation to the public, the educator

1. shall not misrepresent an institution or organization with which he/she is affiliated, and shall take adequate precautions to distinguish between his/her personal and institutional or organizational views.
2. shall not knowingly distort or misrepresent the facts concerning educational matters in direct and indirect public expressions.
3. shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political and citizenship rights and responsibilities.
4. shall not use institutional privileges for private gain or to promote political candidates or partisan political activities.
5. shall accept no gratuities, gifts or favors that might impair or appear to impair professional judgment, not offer any favor, service, or thing of value to obtain special advantage.